



## Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) in California

California regained its TB Accredited Free Status on April 15, 2005. The State was classified as Modified Accredited Advanced for two years after bovine TB was detected in three dairy herds. All three herds were quarantined, cattle destroyed, and the affected premises cleaned, disinfected, and restocked.

California is maintaining and demonstrating its freedom from bovine TB through movement controls and surveillance. All of California's major adult cattle packing plants meet or exceed target surveillance levels. More than 774,000 adult cattle slaughtered in California in 2006 were inspected for TB and 1,273 suspicious samples evaluated at the laboratory; all were negative for TB. Five feedlot cases (three killed in California and two killed in other states) are being investigated; four appear to be Mexican origin cattle, and one may not be bovine TB.

Testing live cattle is also crucial for maintaining free status. In 2006, private veterinarians did nearly 74,000 caudal fold tuberculin tests in California, and had 257 responders (0.35 percent). Three reactor cattle were negative when slaughtered for diagnostic purposes. Three cases are being investigated in California involving the movement of infected cattle. Continued vigilance, including preventing contact between breeding cattle and Mexican origin cattle, is necessary to ensure California remains free of bovine TB.

## National Surveillance

Nationally, private practitioners did about 900,000 caudal fold tuberculin tests in 2006. Over 9,700 cattle, or about 1 percent, were positive on the initial skin test and negative on further evaluation for bovine TB.

Slaughter surveillance continued to improve in 2006. Forty plants, located in 20 states, killed 95.7 percent of the adult cattle; all but three of these plants meet or exceed targeted surveillance levels. Almost 10,000 suspicious samples were submitted nationally in 2006; 26 were positive for bovine TB and 10 for other mycobacteria.

## Current Investigations

The origin of two infected beef cows is being investigated in South Dakota (in addition to an untraceable infected beef cow detected there last year). Contacts with an infected rodeo bucking bull from Colorado are being tested in several states, including California. A beef herd is being tested in Oklahoma following a trace from an infected cow detected late last year. An investigation involving a large dairy herd is

ongoing in New Mexico following an infected cow detected at slaughter. Several feedlot traces are ongoing, including the California cases.

## National TB Report

There have been 21 affected and exposed cattle herds between 2005 and now; three herds were infected before 2005 (one in New Mexico and two in Michigan); four infected herds were detected in 2005 (one in Arizona and three in Minnesota); nine herds were detected in 2006 (two in Minnesota and seven in Michigan) and three herds were exposed (two in Texas and one in Kansas). In 2007, so far, two infected herds have been detected in Minnesota and one in Michigan, and one infected captive cervid herd has been detected in Michigan.

## TB Infected Herds in the US – Update

**Michigan:** Seven infected herds were detected and depopulated in 2006 (five beef and two dairy). Two of these herds were outside the endemic zone and another herd was a re-infection. Two dairy herds detected in 2004 continue a test-and-removal plan. One mixed herd of cattle and a captive cervid ranch were detected and depopulated in 2007. Since 1995, 525 TB infected white- tailed deer have been detected from over 145,000 examined.

**Minnesota:** Seven infected beef herds have been diagnosed in Minnesota during this outbreak; three in 2005, two in 2006, and two in 2007. All infected herds were depopulated. Thirteen suspected and confirmed cases of bovine TB have been found in deer in Minnesota.

**New Mexico:** One large dairy herd is being investigated following detection of an infected cow at slaughter. No infected herds were detected in 2006; one infected dairy herd identified in 2003 remains under a test-and-removal plan.

**Texas:** No new herds were found in 2006. The last infected herd was depopulated in September 2004; Texas was declared TB free in September 2006.

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